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PATENT SPECIFICATION

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Fire Escapes or Lowering Apparatus.

I, ANTOINE JOSEPH MARIUS BARTHÉLEMY, known as PAUL CANS, of 18, rue Ernest Lefèvre, Paris, France, citizen of the Republic of France, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

10 This invention relates to improvements in fire escapes or lowering apparatus of the kind involving the employment of a rope which may be suspended at a convenient place, for example at a window 15 for lowering endangered persons, or for the salvage of goods, and comprising two plates connected to form a frame in which are mounted two fixed rollers and a displaceable roller around which the 20 said lowering rope is passed in such a manner that the weight of the object to be saved causes a movement of the displaceable roller towards the fixed rollers to produce a braking effect between the 25 rope and the appliance, the said braking effect being regulable, by the person descending pulling on the rope, or by a person at the lower end of the rope, pulling the free end thereof.

30 The object of the present invention is to provide an appliance of this kind which can be secured to any point in the length of the lowering rope without threading the appliance on the rope.

35 The appliance according to the invention comprises essentially two side members in which the axles of the fixed rollers are mounted one above the other and which are provided between the said axles 40 with lateral extensions in which a removable roller may be displaceably mounted so that a pull on the lowering rope causes the removable and displaceable roller to move towards the fixed rollers.

45 To render the appliance ready for use the lowering rope is suspended from a point convenient for descending; a loop

is passed between the two fixed rollers and around the removable and displaceable roller and the free end of the rope 50 is pulled to draw in the loop and bring the latter roller close up to the fixed rollers.

The crowding of the rollers together produces a braking effect between the 55 appliance and the rope which braking effect is regulable by pulling more or less on the free end of the rope.

The invention is illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings 60 wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device showing the method of attaching same to the rope,

Figure 2 is a perspective view showing 65 the device in working order.

As will be seen, from the accompanying drawings, the appliance is constituted by two side members *a* parallelly located and connected by pins or bolts *g* 70 and axles *b* bearing or supporting two fixed rollers *c* one above the other.

The said side members comprise between the said axles, lateral extensions *h* and *i* one of which is provided with an 75 open horizontal or otherwise arranged slide *j* the ends of which are flared at *h*, while the other is provided with a closed slide *l*. The extension *i* is curved out at its end *m* and serves as a housing for the 80 axle *e* of a removable roller *d*, which can also occupy the open position shown in Figure 1, or be engaged between the two parts *h* and *i* (Figure 2).

The axle *e* is kept in the closed slide *l* 85 by means of a pin *n* shown by dotted lines on the drawing.

The linking means of the axle *e* on the part *i* may, of course, be any other than the one described, providing it allows 90 easy passing of the loop *r* over the removable roller *d*, which can assume the position shown in Figure 2 and crowd more or less closely against the fixed rollers *c*.

according to the weight or load supported by either of the pins or bolts according to the arrangement of the device on the rope c.

5 A method of using the aforescribed escape is as follows:—

When a fireman has by any means reached a group of endangered persons, then, being provided with his rope and 10 a number of appliances, he is enabled to get them down without any effort, either singly or in groups.

For this purpose, after having fastened the rope on any convenient part of the 15 building, he affixes the appliance to the said rope. The endangered persons have only to hook on by means of their belts or waists and let themselves down regulating the speed themselves. If the 20 endangered persons are incapable of regulating the speed of descent a fireman at the bottom of the rope may do so by pulling the end. The fireman at the top may confine his duties for the time being 25 to attaching further lowering devices and superintending the descent of other endangered persons.

It is obvious that the appliance may

be used for purposes other than salvage. It can be made in the form of a toy or 30 reduced model.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I 35 claim is:—

1. A fire escape or lowering apparatus of the type referred to characterised by two side members in which the axles of the fixed rollers are mounted one above 40 the other and which are provided between the said axles with lateral extensions in which a removable roller may be displaceably mounted, so that a pull on the lowering rope causes the removable 45 and displaceable roller to move towards the fixed rollers.

2. A fire escape or lowering apparatus substantially as described or substantially as illustrated in the accompanying 50 drawings.

Dated this 25th day of January, 1922.

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1 SHEET

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale]

Fig. 1.

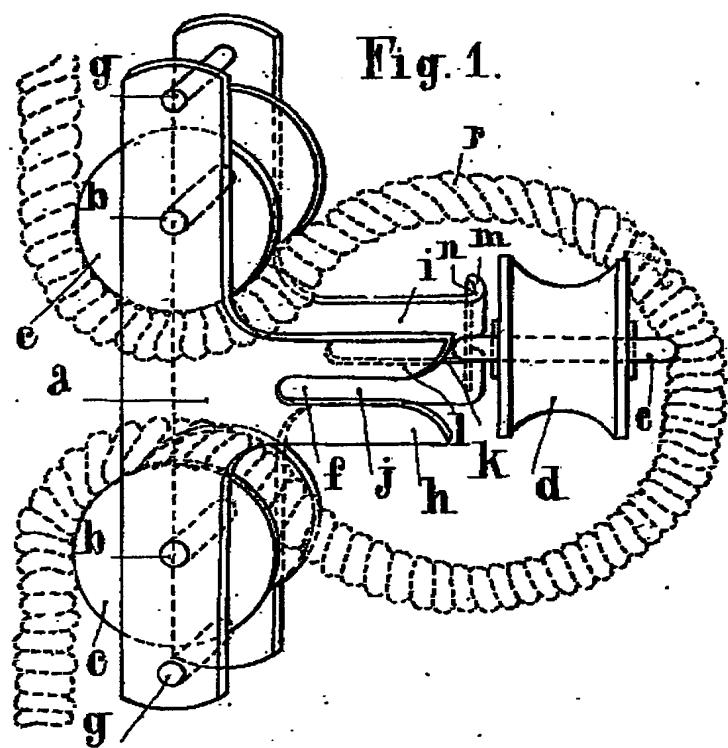


Fig. 2.

